

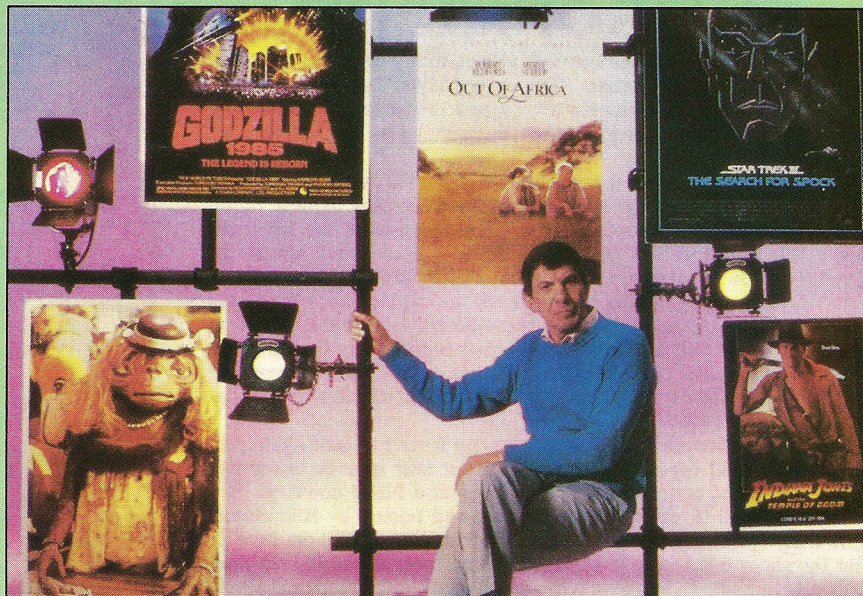
## Ian Horner's American box office review

Not Surprisingly, perhaps, the top half of the last chart, ie, the strongest performers in July, are still kicking around this chart with the noted exception of *See You In The Morning* (Warner tba) which has thrown in the towel. On the other hand, clinging tenaciously to chart-bottom is *Rain Man* (CEL's MGM/UA tba) with Hoffman, Cruise and CEL all singin' in the rain. Of the five newcomers it's the canine comedy *K-9* (CIC-Taft tba) which has most aggressively savaged the Stephen King shocker *Pet Semetary* (CIC-Taft tba), nevertheless leaving CIC-Taft the clear winner. They also hold video rights to the next two chart titles. Indeed, these top four pictures earned around \$2 million - two-thirds of the whole chart! Upcoming title to watch for is *The Rainbow* (Vestron tba), Ken Russell's latest D.H. Lawrence adaptation following *Women In Love* of a mere 19 years before. Interestingly, the most improved titles are 976-*Evil* and *Terror Within* (both independent productions and seasonal long-runners) plus the previously mentioned *Field Of Dreams*. Renewed interest in the first two bodes well for video. Pictures which suffered most over the last month were: *Speed Zone* (now No. 25), *Little Dorrit* (No. 58), *Some Girls* (No. 61), *See You In The Morning* (No. 18), *The Toxic Avenger Part II* (No. 51 and *Paperhouse* (No. 62). This list represents rapidly diminishing theatre-goer interest, the kiss of death for any title. Don't discard these titles too cursorily, particularly *Little Dorrit*, but remember that distributors had an uphill battle selling them to the American public. Top five pictures in widest distribution correlate almost 100 per cent with the chart: *K-9*, *Pet Semetary*, *Major League*, *Listen To Me* and *The Dream Team*. Noted exceptions are *Field Of Dreams* and *Scandal* which are obviously taking well above the per-screen averages to get onto the chart at all. These two are doing phenomenal business in limited locations - and could be video goldmines if distributors can tap the mother lode.

**Aussies in America:** *The Navigator: An Odyssey Across Time* and *Vincent: The Life And Death Of Vincent Van Gogh* are hanging on admirably.

## TOP TEN

August	July	Title	Weeks
1	(-)	K-9	4
2	(1)	Pet Semetary	5
3	(-)	Field Of Dreams	5
4	(2)	Major League	7
5	(-)	Criminal Law	4
6	(-)	Listen To Me	3
7	(4)	The Dream Team	7
8	(3)	Say Anything ...	6
9	(8)	Rain Man	23
10	(-)	Scandal	4



## Leonard Nimoy

**On *Star Trek V: The Final Frontier*,** in which Nimoy reprises the role of Mr. Spock; "It's pretty physical so far and it's an interesting script. There is a lot of charm to it. The characters are fun and it's a sizable film. Very ambitious. Lots of special effects, big cast, lots of people, a great deal of locations stuff. It is a tough picture to make. We just finished location shooting spending a few days in Yosemite National Park and a couple of weeks, at night, in the Mojave Desert. That was rough. The rest is top secret, as they say."

**On Nimoy's last directorial effort, *The Good Mother*,** which stars Diane Keaton as a divorced mother who must fight for custody of her young daughter when her sexual and emotional growth are seen as conflicting with what is expected of a good mother. "I learned a lot. Single motherhood, single parenting is a very hot contemporary issue. I must admit it was the most difficult, the most trying job I've ever done. As an actor going into an emotional role, I expect to get emotional. I expect to get in touch with my emotions and use them, but it snuck up on me as a director. I had no idea

it would affect me so much. Emotionally, it was like being run over by a freight train. It was an easy picture to make physically but emotionally, by the time *The Good Mother* was finished, I was exhausted."

**On *Three Men And A Baby*:** "Oh yes, that little movie - that was a wonderful little film - I hope you enjoyed it. Yes, of course there will be another, a sequel, but I'm afraid I can't tell you what the story is about until the screen writer gets it right."

**On Nimoy's next film project:** "After or before *Baby 2*, I don't know which one is coming first, I have the options on a story concerning a Jewish man who fought and won a bitter law suit against an organisation which claimed the holocaust never happened. I'm getting many more submissions for directing, a steady stream of scripts. I am very lucky; I have really just backed into this amazing new career."

**On his dual career as director and actor:** "I'm having a good time, a really good time. There aren't too many acting roles coming my way but that doesn't matter as it seems they want me as a director."

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